

NATIONAL

How Amman came to be

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS of Amman like the ones shown here are unfailingly fascinating and revealing. They show in graphic, two-dimensional detail exactly what the area looked like over 100 years ago, when only the ruins of the Roman Amphitheatre stood in the Saqif Si Seil valley.

Revealing as photographs like this are, however, they often pose as many questions as they answer. They pose questions like: How did these rocky rolling hillsides, which looked as devoid of recent human occupation as the contours of the moon, become the nucleus for today's modern metropolis? What was the catalyst that started the energetic construction drive moving? Who were the first people to inhabit the area? And why?

A man who knows at least some of the answers is amateur historian Mr. Raouf Abu Jaber, who on Wednesday night at the British Council will not only be piecing together the jigsaw puzzle of Amman's past, but who will also, bring to life in his own inimitable way the story of Amman in the 1880s.

"Amman deserves to be given this study," Mr. Abu Jaber told the Jordan Times; "for it has acquired great importance as the capital of Jordan, and is now looked upon as a centre of commerce, progress and learning."

Mr. Abu Jaber has invested a

great deal of his time in the study of the subject, about which information is not always easily obtainable. His main sources have been travel books written by European and American adventurers of the last century; administrative records now held in Damascus, made during that period by a *qa'im magam* (local administrator) residing in Salt, and the stories and chronicles passed down through generations of local people by word of mouth. Mr. Abu Jaber feels that this latter source, whose richnesses have barely begun to be tapped, along with the Ottoman administrative records of the area now held in Istanbul and still unavailable to students of history, will in the future provide much more information about this period.

Slides of photographs taken by the Bonfils family of the area in the 1880's will illustrate Wednesday's lecture, which Mr. Abu Jaber will begin by giving an idea of the general conditions that prevailed in the Amman area before the time in question.

Basically the whole region was inhabited by two nomadic tribes. To the east of a loosely defined boundary that ran between Amman and Madaba lived the Bani Sakhr, whose existence depended on finding water and pasture for their life-giving herds of goats and flocks of sheep. To the west of this line lived the Balqawieh, a more sedentary tribe, headed by the Adwans, who tilled

the lands of the plateau and the rich soils of the Ghor. Inevitably these interests conflicted — the nomads needed the pasture, while the farmers tried to preserve their crops. Bloodshed, raiding and wars resulted.

Such was the situation when the Circassians arrived in 1878. These people had fled their homelands a year earlier, when conditions there became untenable for them after the defeat of their allies, the Ottoman Turks, by the Bulgarians in the Battle of Plevna of 1877.

The arrival of the Circassians, however, far from reducing the hostility between the two warring tribes, aroused it even more strongly. This ultimately resulted in what Mr. Abu Jaber called a "major bloody confrontation", when in 1904 the Bani Sakhr, aided by the Circassians, fought and defeated the tribes of the Balqawieh. Although treaties were drawn up after the Harb Balqawieh, as it has since become known, hostilities between the tribes continued right up until the First World War.

Despite these violent undertones, the influx of people to the area, and the resulting formation of Amman as a village in 1880 attracted many others, as here was an untapped market. Among the first to arrive, between 1885 and 1890, were merchants from Syria and Nablus. Craftsmen — tailors, coppermiths, saddlemakers — came from Lebanon and other areas to meet the demands

of the new villagers, while civil servants came from all parts of the Turkish Empire to fill the Posts of Mudir.

With these people came stability and farmers, encouraged by this atmosphere, started to practise on a large scale, especially in the areas between Amman and Madaba where the present-day villages of Yadoudah, Juweideh, Hisban and Umm-Al Amad still bear the names of what were then

individual farms of great size.

"This improvement in agricultural endeavours gave the area new impetus in the economic field," Mr. Abu Jaber said, "since the crops together with the animal produce were not only sold to the nomadic tribes of the south and east but were also exported to Jerusalem, which needed such goods in order to feed the increasing numbers of pilgrims that were flocking to the city from Greece and

Russia with the sole purpose of visiting the holy places."

All this wealth of fact, and much more, constitutes the lecture to be given by Mr. Abu Jaber, who because of love he feels for the subject puts across the information with great animation and confidence.

One day we may be able to read it all for ourselves, when Mr. Abu Jaber achieves his ambition of writing the history of Transjordan during 19th century.



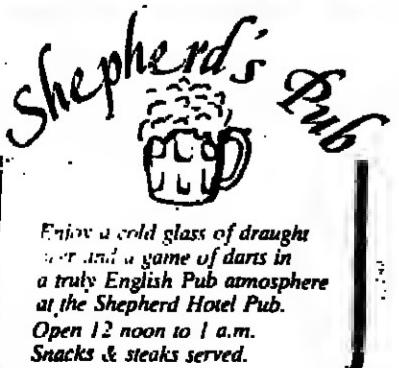
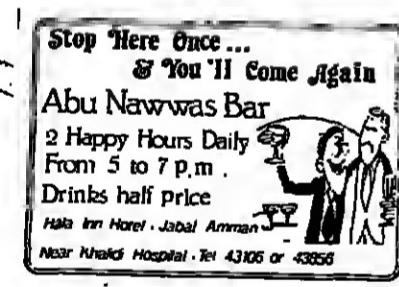
Two views of Amman's Roman Amphitheatre in the last century (neither of which will appear in Mr. Abu Jaber's lecture). Left, view taken by photographer Tancrede R. Dumas in the autumn of 1875. Right, an "American Colony Photo Card" of the same site, taken about 15 years later by



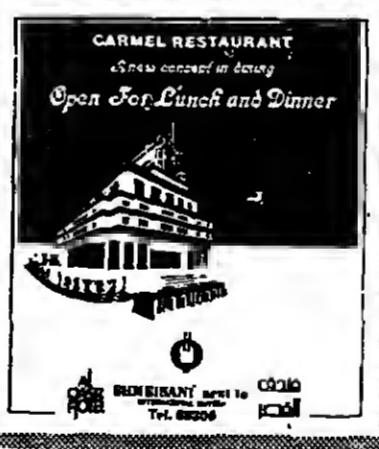
which time settlers in the area had built a wall and arched entryway in the line of Roman columns. Mr. Abu Jaber says he would be grateful for any information as to the location of more American Colony postcards, or permission to make copies of any that exist.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

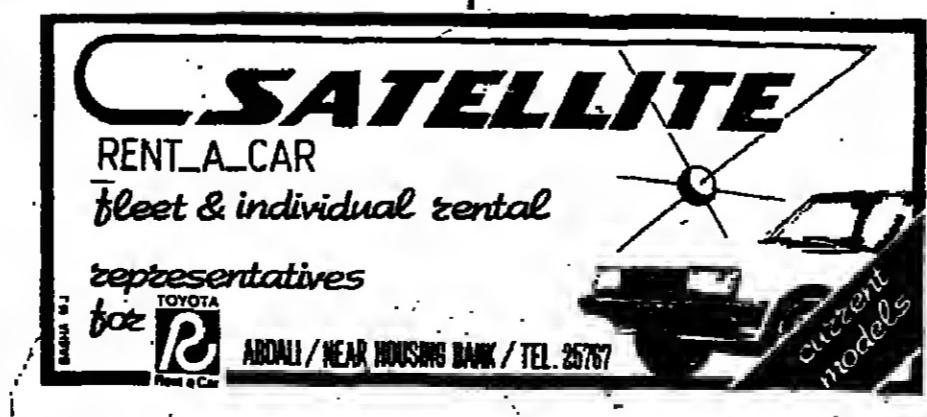
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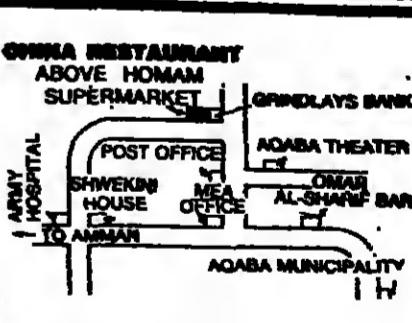
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MISCELLANEOUS



NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Sierra Leone president due soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sierra Leone President Siaka Probyn Stevens will arrive in Amman within the coming few days on a visit of several days to Jordan, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. President Stevens is scheduled to meet with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of senior officials on bilateral relations and current international developments, Al Ra'i added.

Jordan to buy more Bahraini bank equity

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has decided to increase Jordan's share in the Bahrain-based Al Bahrain Arab African Bank from \$2 million to \$4 million. Before the cabinet's decision, the Ministry of Finance's share in the bank's authorised capital of \$50 million amounted to 0.128 per cent.

Labour official to work in Somalia

AMMAN (Petra) — The labour ministry has agreed to send a labour education expert to Somalia. Labour Education Department Director Hani Khair will be seconded to the North African country.

University of Jordan gets donations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Sami Khouri has donated JD 25,000 worth of prefabricated buildings and materials to the University of Jordan, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Monday. These buildings, the paper explained, will be erected on the university campus, and at the Faculty of Agriculture's farm in the Jordan Valley. The Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company has donated JD 500 to the documents and manuscripts centre at the university, the paper added.

Neurosurgeon invited to UNESCO panel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi, a Jordanian neurosurgeon, has received an official invitation from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to be a member of a panel of judges entrusted with choosing the most important medical research in the world, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. It said the committee, which would meet in Italy, would award a prize of 50 million Italian lire. Dr. Kurdi is the first Arab doctor to receive such an invitation, the paper said.

University dean sees Bahrain ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan Marwan Kamal received on Tuesday Bahraini Ambassador in Amman Abdullah Al Hussein. They discussed the possibility of cooperation in agriculture, particularly in planting dates and the fight against desertification. Dr. Kamal expressed willingness to cooperate with Bahraini institutes in this connection.

Jordan to participate in Milan fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in the week-long Milan international fair, which will begin on April 4. The Industry and Trade Ministry has called on the Chamber of Commerce to urge Jordanian industrial and commercial establishments to participate in the fair, and to provide samples of their products together with all related information to the ministry.

Czech-Jordanian cultural programme set

AMMAN (Petra) — Acting University of Jordan President Rasheed Al Diqri received on Tuesday the Czechoslovak cultural attaché in Amman. They discussed ways to implement a cultural agreement between Jordan and Czechoslovakia, particularly the provisions related to cooperation between the University of Jordan and Czechoslovak universities. A preliminary timetable was drawn up to implement those provisions which relate to the exchange of professors, students and scholarships, as well as of publications and periodicals published by the universities of the two countries.

Firms invited to carpet exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Commerce has received an invitation to attend an international carpets exhibition, which will open in Atlanta, Georgia on July 7. The chamber sent a circular to concerned commercial enterprises and merchants, to give them an opportunity to attend the exhibition.

International civil defence chief due

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Algerian Civil Defence Organisation Mohammed Nureddin Ibn Muheidi will arrive in Amman on April 2 for a week-long official visit to Jordan. Civil Defence Director General Khaled Al Tarawneh said the aim of the visit is to strengthen cooperation between his department and the international organisation for civil defence. Mr. Muheidi is also the chairman of the executive committee of the international organisation.

U. of J. to attend literacy seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will participate in a seminar on the cultural concept of literacy which will be held in Rabat, Morocco in May. During the five-day seminar, the participants will discuss topics related to literacy in the Arab World, and a national plan for combating illiteracy in various Arab countries. The seminar is organised by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO). Representatives of various Arab countries will participate.

Aqaba traffic on the upswing

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of ships visiting Aqaba Port during January 1982 showed an increase of 48 compared to January 1981. A statistical bulletin issued by the Aqaba port authority said 134 ships visited the port in January 1982, compared to 134 ships in January 1981.

3 villages get electric power

KARAK (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) completed this month the provision of electric current to three villages in Karak Governorate. The director of electricity in Karak District said a transformer at a capacity of 100 kilowatt amperes (kVA) has been installed for each village, within the JEA plan to electrify three villages every month. The Karak electricity department has electrified 39 villages within the second phase of the plan, at a cost of JD 2 million. The department has also installed 75 kilometres of 33-kilovolt high-tension lines to feed the northern and southern areas of the governorate.

Attaches visit battlesite, valley projects



AMMAN (Petra) — Several Military attaches at Amman embassies and their wives visited on Tuesday morning the Fourth Royal mechanised division. They placed a wreath on the martyrs' monument of the Battle of Karameh, and heard a briefing on the accomplishments of the previous five-year development plan and the objectives of the current plan. The military attaches then visited several development

projects in the Jordan Valley being implemented by the Jordan Valley Authority, where they saw the modern methods used in agriculture. They also heard a briefing on the accomplishments of the previous five-year development plan and the objectives of the current plan.

Longer stays allowed foreign vehicles; licence rules altered

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Finance and Customs has decided to double the maximum permissible period of stay for non-Jordanian vehicles in Jordan. Foreign-registered vehicles may now stay in the country for one month instead of 15 days.

The step has been taken to be in line with the new policy on the fees charged foreign vehicles. Such vehicles now get new facilities, in view of the increased land transport activity between Jordan and neighbouring countries.

Meanwhile, instructions circulated to customs posts, the ministry said that the temporary admission licences which are given to non-Jordanian vehicles should only be given on the strength of ownership titles, invoices or manifests. Such licences should not be issued in the names of the drivers of foreign trucks, if they are not the vehicles' owners, the circular said.

Ministry plans S. Aqaba coast beach project

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has allocated JD 50,000 for the building of beach facilities all along the southern coast of Aqaba, in addition to three mobile health units as part of its programme to develop the Aqaba coast. The ministry last month established two resthouses on the coast to render services to tourists and other visitors.

Meanwhile, the ministry announced that it will also participate in an Arab tourist exhibition which will be organised in Dubai in November. The Jordanian pavilion will include publicity materials representing tourist and historic sites in Jordan.

The ministry will this year participate in three other exhibitions: the exhibition of American tourist and travel agents, the tourist exchange exhibition in Milan, Italy and the Brussels tourist exhibition.

Insurance firms' revenues, payments booming, study says

AMMAN (Petra) — A study released by the Insurance Control Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade has shown that the annual revenues of insurance companies in 1972 to JD 19.6 million in 1981.

The study added that compensation paid by insurance companies for car accidents in 1972 totalled JD 3.8 million, and compensation paid in the last 10 years, from 1972 to 1981, totalled some JD 16 million.

The study indicated that cars registered in Jordan number well over 156,000, and that insurance companies by 1981 had some 126,000 auto-insurance contracts. It also showed that car accidents in 1981 reached 13,567, killing 457 persons and injuring 4,795, and inflicting damage on 22,614 cars.

Textbook programmes approved

AMMAN (Petra) — The Education Council, in a meeting on Tuesday evening, approved a plan for the secretarial textbook for the commercial third-level secondary class after proposing several changes. It also approved the printing of a textbook for use in commercial schools beginning in the 1982-83 scholastic year.

Meeting at the Education Ministry under Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal, the council also resumed discussion of the proposed educational structure for the secondary phase, prepared by a special committee. The proposal aims to fulfill all the requirements of secondary education and provide

500 new phones to be installed

AMMAN (Petra) — The central telephone committee met on Tuesday under Communications Minister and Telecommunications Corporation Board Chairman Mohammad Abdouh Al Zaben. The committee agreed to install 493 new telephones at residences and commercial and industrial establishments.

Dr. Zaben said the new telephones will be installed in Mafraq, Maarka, Ashrafiyah and its outskirts, Bayader, Wadi Seer, Suweileh, Abdai, Jabal Al Qusour, central Amman, the housing estate of the Royal Scientific Society in Tabarbour and the lawyers' housing estate, also in Tabarbour.

The members of the Turkish

seminar Moderator Rima Kamal Al Damen briefly outlined the pressing everyday problems that beset the working mother as she struggles to meet the requirements of her job, her family and her social duties.

Mr. Mahmoud Al Sharif, editor-in-chief of the Arabic daily

Turkish trade delegation due

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Turkish economic delegation led by Trade Minister Kamal Kunturk will arrive in Amman on Saturday. Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. It said Jordanian-Turkish economic and trade talks will begin on Sunday.

The members of the Turkish

delegation will meet with the ministers of supply, transport, public works and labour and with the president of the National Planning Council. They will also visit a number of projects in Aqaba and the phosphate mines in Al Hasa, as well as tourist sites of Aqaba and Petra, the paper added.

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will participate in the second international conference on Islamic medicine, which will begin in Kuwait on March 29. During the five-day conference, the participants will discuss the relationship between the curricula of medical schools and the teachings of Islam, and the significance of spiritual and religious factors in medical treatment.

They will also discuss the Islamic medical heritage and the present and future of Islamic medicine, and review studies based on scientific and experimental foundations which have proven the effectiveness of treatment according to Islamic theories.

All Arab countries and several Islamic countries will participate in the conference. The University of Jordan will be represented by Dr. Qandil Shaker, assistant professor at the Faculty of Medical Science.

The Embassy of Japan in cooperation with The Chamber of Industry presents THE JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL

At the Chamber of Industry on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28, 1982, at 5 p.m. The programme is as follows:

Saturday, March 27, 1982 Feature film (*Judo Sugata*) Arabic sub-titles

Culture film (*Today's Japan*)

Sunday, March 28, 1982 Feature film (*The Three Undelivered Letters*) Arabic subtitles

OPEN INVITATION

Draft labour law improves women's rights, privileges

By Samira Kawar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The new draft labour law, which will be submitted to the Prime Ministry for cabinet discussion sometime next week, will deal more adequately than the present law with matters relating to working women and mothers, according to Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jaber. Dr. Abdul Jaber spoke at a seminar on working mothers jointly organised by the Ministry of Social Development and the Women's Professional Association under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor on Tuesday afternoon, to celebrate Mother's Day.

The present labour law, which was enacted in 1961, falls short of the Arab Agreement for Working Women, and the Ministry of Labour has sought to do more justice to working women in its formulation of the draft law, said Dr. Abdul Jaber. The draft law specifies that maternity leave for working mothers be increased from six weeks under the present law to 10 weeks. Furthermore, working mothers would receive full pay when on maternity leave, instead of half pay as they do under the present law.

The draft law prohibits employers from dismissing women during their pregnancies and maternity leaves. To ensure the provision of services to help working mothers cope with their careers as well as their family duties, the new law specifies that all institutions employing 20 or more female employees must provide daycare centres for their children.

Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufti, in an opening address to the 200 men and women attending the seminar, pointed out that Jordanian women are participating in the country's social and economic development alongside men. Women's contribution to development through participating in the workforce has become an undisputed necessity in Jordan, she pointed out.

As many as 70 per cent of women who work outside the home in Jordan do so because they need to help satisfy their families' economic needs, Mrs. Mufti said.

She asserted the importance of offering these working women facilities that would help them to make a meaningful contribution, both as mothers and as career women.

Seminar Moderator Rima Kamal Al Damen briefly outlined the pressing everyday problems that beset the working mother as she struggles to meet the requirements of her job, her family and her social duties.

The Jordanian civil aviation delegation left Amman for Sana'a Monday under Sharif Ghazi for a three-day visit.

The members of the Turkish

Al Dustour, examined the social and cultural factors that determine, and often hinder, women's participation in the workforce. He warned that the positive aspects of providing work opportunities for women outside the home could obscure the possible damage that such a situation could do to women, the family and society.

Women's self-help

Mrs. Butaina Jardaneh, head of the Women's Department at the Ministry of Social Development, spoke on services that could be provided by the authorities to offer assistance to working mothers. She also referred to ways in which working mothers could contribute to the solution of their own problems, by enlisting the help of their husbands and children to cooperate with in running their households.

In a lively 45-minute discussion, many of the women participants raised questions relating to equal

career opportunities and working conditions for men and women, the discrepancy between equal employment laws and actual employment situations and the lack of facilities and services to help working peasant mothers in the Jordan Valley.

The seminar's drafting committee submitted a list of suggested recommendations, to be discussed by a committee that would finally issue its recommendations on behalf of the participants at a future date.

These suggested recommendations included a request that the Jordanian civil service regulations be amended to give women government employees the same rights as other working women under the Labour Law. The children of women government employees would benefit from medical insurance facilities and care, as those of male employees do; and women government employees would get the same pension rights as their male counterparts, under the recommendations.

Meteorology Department gets advanced satellite earth station

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Meteorology Department has purchased a new satellite tracking station to make possible increased accuracy in weather observation and forecasting, Director of Meteorology Ali Abanda announced on Tuesday.

Dr. Abanda told the Jordan Times the station, of a very advanced design and bought from the Swiss firm Technivax for about \$125,000, was capable of receiving one weather photograph every half hour, taken by either visible light or infrared rays. He said these pictures would come from both polar orbiting satellites—American or Soviet—and geostationary ones, in particular the European Meteosat.

The tracking station the department now operates is capable of receiving only one photo every 12 hours, from polar orbiting satellites only. Dr. Abanda remarked that the new equipment would give much better coverage of clouds, frontal systems, depressions and other weather phenomena, which he said "definitely will contribute to improved forecasts."

Today's weather

Due to the presence of a khamasin depression centred northeast of Egypt, moving eastward, associated with a warm front, it will be cloudy to partly cloudy and hazy, with scattered thundershowers. Winds will be northwesterly fresh. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and dusty, with scattered thunderstorms, southerly fresh winds and rough seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	9	20
Aqaba	16	28
Deserts	10	23
Jordan Valley	14	26

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- Twenty-five years of French Rock, at the French Cultural Centre.
- An Exhibition of Scandinavian Crafts and Design, at the Alia Art Gallery. Ends today.
- International Painters, at the Amman Marriott Hotel.
- Movement and Line, drawings by Mohanna Durra, at the American Centre, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Photographs of Soviet Cosmonauts, at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Lectures

- Amman in the 1980s, by Raouf Sa'd Abu Jaber, at the British Council at 8 p.m

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Time for composure

THE DECISION by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) at an emergency meeting in Vienna this week to reduce its total output of crude oil to 17.5 million barrels per day will take many months to show results. But it is the correct decision, even though it should have been taken months ago. The OPEC states are facing the most important crisis of their two-decade-old organisation, and it remains to be seen whether OPEC as an institution will survive the next year or disintegrate in the face of the free market forces in international oil trading that it has always championed.

In large part, it was the fast rising price of oil that prompted the major western industrialised countries to improve their energy efficiency and to increase their non-oil energy sources during the past decade, and therefore reduce their reliance on imported OPEC oil and gas. Faced with the fruits of its own strategy, OPEC must now show discipline and composure commensurate with its aggressiveness during the 1970s. If it could charge high prices for its oil when market demand was high, it has to learn to live with lower prices and significantly lower output for the rest of this year, while free market demand for its oil is low. The likelihood is that the rest of this year will be required for industrial energy demand in the West to revive to the point where OPEC can aspire to sell more than 20 million barrels of oil per day once again. If the OPEC states prove they have the composure to apply their new decision resolutely, they will do themselves and the rest of the commodity-producing states of the Third World a great service.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Questions to the superpowers

AL RA'EE: The continuing series of the ugly Zionist crimes in the occupied territories and the heroic steadfastness of our people in the West Bank and Gaza once again poses the question about the reality of the stands of the superpowers on the bloody happenings in the occupied territories. We question the motives behind the superpowers' deliberate ignorance of what is taking place in our occupied territories at a time when these powers are fully aware that our people in these territories are being subjected to the worst kind of torture, terrorism and oppression.

We ask these questions because we are fully aware that certain events in other parts of the world have acclaimed the concern of these superpowers and have driven them to condemn the aggressors and call for urgent meetings to boycott them although these events do not equate with the ferocity of the war of extermination waged by the Zionist occupiers against the Palestinian people.

We understand that the world could neither adopt this stand towards the Arab Nation nor deal with its fateful issue with such political duplicity if the Arab Nation was able to mobilise its capabilities, unite its ranks, build its strength and make the events instead of watching what is going on like an impotent cripple. We also understand that these superpowers hasten to support the people who know best how to defend their rights.

As long as we remain unable to defend ourselves, the best these superpowers can do is express their false anxiety and sorrow. We greet our steadfast people who adhere to their lands and who give us hope for a better future and an impending victory.

Will the Arabs respond?

AL DUSTOUR: The bloody events taking place in the West Bank and Gaza have not stirred the Arabs nor have they moved the conscience of the international community to the ugliness of the crimes, killings, terrorism and oppression being committed by Israel in the occupied territories. But Jordan has not hesitated to adopt the stand imposed by its Arab commitment to support the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people against the Zionist enemy.

The National Consultative Council (NCC) issued on Monday a statement which expressed the pride of the Arab conscience in His Majesty King Hussein's stands, open and absolute support for the Palestinian people who are waging a fierce battle against the Israeli occupation authorities in the cities and villages of the occupied territories. It is not strange for a leader who has dedicated his life to serve his nation to adopt such an honourable stand.

Whatever Jordan does to support the Palestinian issue and the struggle and steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories stems from its belief in the pan-Arab nature of the battle. Jordan's support for Iraq and its readiness to support our brothers in the Arabian Gulf will not make if forget its responsibility towards our people in the occupied territories. The NCC has praised and expressed pride in the heroic deeds of our people.

Our children, women and old men in the occupied territories are defying the Zionist enemy. They have proceeded with their strike and resistance which has escalated with the blood of the martyrs. But these heroic actions by our people have not yet received the support of the Arabs despite these people's call for help. Will the Arabs respond?

SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

Hospitalisation costs in Jordan

By Dr. Awn Rifai

Despite assurances by the authorities that Jordan has an excess of physicians compared to its actual needs, and that medical facilities are available and accessible to everybody, there is still a marked lack of adequate and comprehensive medical services in many parts of the country. The situation regarding medical services offered to the various sectors of the population needs to be clarified, so that future plans can be drawn up on firmer grounds.

Some hospitals in Jordan

try to provide a reasonable service to their patients. Some hospitals house the most sophisticated equipment in the world, and enable surgeons to perform critical and complicated operations. For instance, the Queen Alia Centre for heart surgery, at the Hussein Medical City, has already been inaugurated and had cost JD 6.5 million. The Centre is expected to treat patients from Jordan and from other countries in the region. This is certainly a very welcome step, although some clarification ought to

be forwarded as to the financial capabilities of the patients who will be admitted to benefit from such facilities.

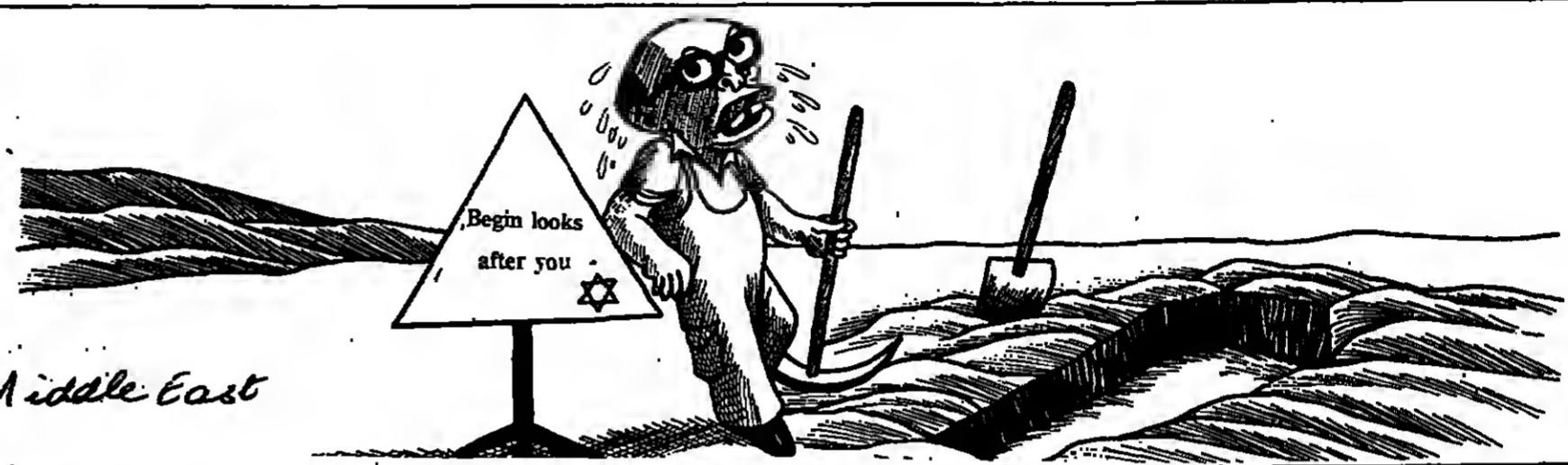
The hospitals in Jordan offer their services to the patients at large without any apparent discrimination, in conformity with the professional medical practices. However, the private, public, and military hospitals alike charge certain fees for their services, which are bound to reflect the standard and the quality of the service offered. This does not necessarily imply any variation in the medical treatment supplied, which is supposed to be consistent throughout. Such a situation has created a stratified medical service characterised by a wide variation in patient care. In some cases, the financial factor influences the fundamental medical treatment, as happens when a patient is compelled to undergo surgery which can only be performed at a certain hospital and at a relatively high cost. The patient is usually requested to deposit a sum of money as a security, before being admis-

sited. Those who, for some reason, are incapable of providing the money, may have to suffer their illness, possibly to death.

It is true that hospitals incur many expenses which they must cover by deriving sufficient funds from whatever source they can. And it is realised, too, that the system of hospital care would be abused if hospitals were to grant a free and comprehensive treatment and adopt an open-door policy. But a means has to be devised by which the patients are offered professional

medical services irrespective of their financial capabilities. Medical facilities should be exempted from obeying the usual economic rules of supply and demand.

The new medical insurance scheme, which is on the way to be implemented in the country, may provide a satisfactory solution to this matter. The advantages of the scheme are still to be seen, but every effort should be made to render it a genuine venture for the provision of appropriate medical care to all members of the public.



Israel's fear of Jordan

The following article is the full text of an article written by Adnan Abu Odeh, minister of information, on Israel's propaganda campaign against the U.S. offer to sell advanced weapons to Jordan. A shorter version of the article was published in the Washington Post earlier this month.

By Adnan Abu Odeh

The official visit to Jordan of Mr. Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defense, between Feb. 10 and 13, 1982 took place within the context of the friendly relations and the mutual interests of both Jordan and the United States, and in harmony with the common views of both countries as to sustaining stability and achieving peace in the Middle East.

The joint Jordanian-American military commission is a salient incarnation of this deeply established relationship and common understanding, and the talks between the Jordanian and the American sides during Mr. Weinberger's visit were conducted in this spirit.

It was only natural that the talks dealt with arms and weaponry. It was equally natural that Jordan had to tackle such discussions on the basis of its need to strengthen its defences and develop its armed forces, being basically the recipient party in this relationship.

Jordan is surrounded by militarily strong countries: Israel, on the one hand, with the most sophisticated weapons which it gets from the United States and with absolute military superiority, and Syria, on the other hand, with the most advanced weapons from the Soviet Union's arsenal.

Against this background, Jordan will be squeezed helplessly if it is denied the right to modernise its weapons, and, eventually, the joint Jordanian-American military commission will be rendered meaningless.

In our understanding, the United States is genuinely concerned not only with sustaining such commissions, but also with increasing them in the mutual interests of the United States and its friends in the region, as we have seen from the recent establishment of a joint American-Saudi military commission and a joint American-Moroccan one.

We in Jordan welcome and encourage such a policy since it provides concrete evidence of the American administration's concern for developing friends in the Middle East other than Israel.

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2. Jordan is the major Arab confrontation state, therefore the F-16s in the hands of Jordan would pose a threat to the security of Israel.

So, to Begin, Jordan is the major Arab confrontation state. But how can Begin dare to insult everybody's intelligence? How could Jordan be a threat to the security of Israel? Jordan of the meagre resources, the financially dependent country, that placed its major capital investment along its borders with Israel and the cease-fire line, that has consistently, for 12 years now, banned any guerrilla activity to be staged from its territory, that has consistently and sincerely called for genuine peace with Israel. How can Jordan risk a provocation to Israel for all Israel's aggressive attitudes and expansionist policies? Stronger and richer Arab countries avoid such a provocation. The lesson of the 1967 war was well-absorbed by Jordan. That is why, in the October war of 1973, Jordan refrained from launching a war across the cease-fire line; and, for obvious reasons, it had to contribute to defending Syrian territory when the course of fighting ebbed against Syria in an area bordering the northern territory.

It is only natural that the talks deal with arms and weaponry. It was equally natural that Jordan had to tackle such discussions on the basis of its need to strengthen its defences and develop its armed forces, being basically the recipient party in this relationship.

However, as Mr. Weinberger himself pointed out, Jordan did not make a request to purchase these weapons. The logical question one should ask is: Why this nervous Israeli campaign? Does Israel really mean what it says? Does it want to secure its right of compensation from the United States as it did after the AWACS deal? Or is it worried about the political implications of the move?

3. No weapon poses as great a danger as the mobile Hawks.

What danger does a mobile Hawk pose? A mobile Hawk is an anti-aircraft missile by name, and by nature it is a defensive weapon. Why does he (Begin) deny Jordan its rights to defend its security and territory when his whole argument rests on his full right to defend his people's security?

Begin's argument

It is useful to examine Begin's arguments as presented in his statement before the Knesset on Feb. 15. They included the following:

1. President Reagan, during his talks with Begin in Washington in September 1981, pledged himself to safeguarding the security of Israel; both in the quality and quantity of armaments. To Begin, selling mobile Hawks and F-16s to Jordan is a violation of that pledge.

In this argument, it is obvious that Begin is clinging to 'quality'.

He is suggesting that no matter how small the quantity of advanced weapons America should not under any circumstances sell such weapons to any of its Arab friends in the Middle East, as such weapons are exclusively saleable to Israel.

Begin does not care, of course, whether a small country like Jordan and a traditional friend of the United States is left weak and defenceless.

He does not care if radicalism or radical-oriented regimes in the area have the upper hand over the moderates.

Why doesn't he care? Because he wants to establish Israel as the only reliable friend of the United States in the area, Israel as the bulwark of Western interests.

2. Jordan wants the Americans to believe that Jordan with its relatively small army and tiny air force poses a threat to the security of Israel in the face of the Israeli army which boasts in words, and proves in action, its capability to strike everywhere around the region.

3. Begin wants the Americans to believe that Jordan with its relatively small army and tiny air force poses a threat to the security of Israel in the face of the Israeli army which boasts in words, and proves in action, its capability to strike everywhere around the region.

4. Begin contends that Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia purchase weapons in the name of defense while they intend to use them for offensive purposes.

In this argument Begin does not elaborate against whom such weapons are to be used. He suggests that Israel is the target. How misleading. Begin assumes that the world is so forgetful. He ass-

umes that others play his game, or perhaps it was not Israel that bombed the nuclear reactor in Baghdad in June 1981, and the residential area of Beirut a few days later? Certainly, Begin doesn't mean that. What he means is that the overwhelming military superiority of Israel should be maintained.

Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia own together 9,000 tanks, 1,900 fighters and 6,000 field guns.

Begin resorts in this argument to the old Israeli trick which has been proven many times to be false and ridiculous. Begin wants us to believe that these weapons, if necessary, could be deployed against Israel, as if Saudi Arabia has a common border with Israel and this is the only border it has, or the Saudi armed forces have no duties in the Gulf or along the Yemeni borders, or elsewhere. And as if Iraqi troops are relaxed without any defence duties along the Iranian borders, or as if the Iraqi government is utterly reassured about the Kurds. Well, this is to assume that bringing together these three countries in the face of Israel is possible. Yet Israel still resorts to this argument when any Arab State negotiates for any arms pur-

out in the region.

Again, Begin tried to confirm that the Israeli people are of a very special stock. So as the prime minister, he has the right to worry about a relative increase in casualties in any possible future war, whereas Jordan has no right to worry about the potential destruction of its people; and even if it does, Jordan had better succumb to Israeli policies and acts of continuous humiliation by allowing Israeli aircraft to fly freely over its territory.

Israel's assumptions

As we see it, the Israeli argument emanates from certain assumptions which neither the ethos of the post-World War II era nor the prerequisites of Western interests in the Middle East can accept. These assumptions are:

1. Israel should block any attempt by any Arab country to cement or promote relations with the United States on the basis of mutual interests. Israel should strive to establish itself in the region as the only reliable ally of the West, in general, and the United States in particular. Any Israeli failure to achieve this objective will jeopardise its expansionist policies that run against international law and Western interests.
2. If the United States responds positively to the Israeli demand not to sell weapons to Jordan, at a time when Israel insists on seizing the West Bank, America will be viewed as an accomplice in Israeli expansionism.
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Gulf states feel financial pinch

BAHRAIN (A.P.) — Half the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council are suffering financial problems during 1982 because of falling crude prices and production, according to official figures.

Kuwait will sustain a budget deficit of at least one million dinars (\$3.5 billion), while the United Arab Emirates budget will be \$620 million in the red and Oman will suffer from a \$500 million balance of payments gap.

Figures released in Kuwait said

the deficit estimate was conservative, based on Kuwait's ability to raise its current average daily crude output of 655,000 barrels to one million barrels—an unlikely development in view of OPEC's recent decision to lower aggregate daily output to 17 million barrels.

Public expenditures in Kuwait, which has a population of around 1.5 million, multiplied eight-fold in the decade ending last year. Per capita income rose nearly five times in the same period to 1963

dinars (\$6870), official figures say.

The U.A.E. and Oman, with populations of less than one million each, have announced measures that they will be in financial trouble in 1982 despite Oman's annual earnings of \$3.5 billion—from its daily production of \$300,000 barrels—and despite the UAE's average daily output of 1.5 million barrels.

A report from Abu Dhabi by the Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency said the UAE cabinet

approved Tuesday a draft budget with total outlays of \$2.95 billion (\$6.25 billion).

The draft will be submitted later for ratification by the Federal National Council (parliament), the report said.

Other details of the budget were not given.

The UAE is a federation comprising seven Gulf states, headed by the two largest emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai, which currently account for the bulk of the federation's average daily crude output of 1.6 million barrels. The total population is less than one million.

Gold firms

LONDON (R) — Gold firmed in a wave of world bullion markets Tuesday, rising eight dollars in ounce in London to \$329.25.

Analysts said it was too early to say if the metal's recovery from a two-and-a-half year low of \$311.50 an ounce last week would continue, but the rebound sparked hectic dealings in the shares of gold mining companies on the Johannesburg stock exchange.

Many miners in South Africa, the world's largest producer, operate unprofitably at current world levels and any sign of a price recovery is welcomed by their shareholders.

London dealers attributed Tuesday's eight dollar rise from Monday's closing price to Middle East and Asian purchasers rebuilding holdings in the belief that gold had fallen too far recently.

Both these aircraft offer space-age technology and electronic reliability equipment and both will effect dramatic savings in fuel costs for airlines.

These two new aircraft which will be the civil air transport of the future are now test-flying at Boeing in Seattle, USA and will be going into commercial service in the coming months.

OPEC deal wrought with uncertainty

News analysis
By Nicholas Moore
Reuter

VIENNA — OPEC oil exporters took a historic decision this weekend to try to behave as a true cartel, fixing output quotas to defend the price in an unprecedented world glut.

But to ride out the glut, oil company executives say, OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) will have to find the self-discipline that has eluded it in the turbulent years since it grabbed control of the international market during the 1973 Arab oil embargo.

Meeting in Vienna, the 13 oil ministers of OPEC elected to try to keep total output in April and may below 18 million barrels a day (b/d). Each took a fixed quota within that total.

The deal hinges on a tacit bargain between Saudi Arabia and the 12 other members, delegates said. The Saudis, the only ones wealthy enough to be able to do so, are ready to take yet more oil off the market if that should be necessary — provided the rest stick to their quota and do not rush to make secret discounts or dump oil and refined products on the Rotterdam spot market.

Oil Minister Subroto of Indonesia told reporters: "That is the understanding. They (the Saudis) would do their part and do what is necessary to defend \$34 if the others adhere to what was agreed here."

The price of \$34 for a barrel of Saudi light crude is the benchmark on which all OPEC prices are aligned with so-called differentials — agreed premiums or discounts on the benchmark — to reflect the varying yield in refined products like petrol of the different crude oils.

While the ministers agreed to defend the \$34 benchmark and Saudi Arabia's Ahmed Zaki Yamani told a news conference he would like to see it stay at this level until the end of 1983, the prices of some crudes were slightly reduced.

New differentials were set for high-quality crudes that would entail price cuts of one to \$1.50 by several exporters, OPEC president Mana Said Al Oteiba of the United Arab Emirates announced. Typically, his own murban crude was reduced from \$35.50 to \$34.56 a barrel.

With Algeria, Libya and Nigeria also making such price cuts,

affecting up to a quarter of all OPEC output, a few cents will be knocked off the average world price.

To add credibility to the OPEC defensive package, Sheikh Yamani announced after the meeting ended that from April 1 he would take half a million barrels daily of Saudi oil off the market.

That will reduce the Saudi total to seven million b/d, although the

Saudis to set higher and higher prices and "wrong stories", that speculated that Saudi Arabia was a secret party to the anti-OPEC moves and was going slow on trimming its huge output, he said.

Sheikh Yamani said no one knew for certain just how much oil was flowing out of stocks but estimated it was well over four million barrels daily in the last two weeks.

Market experts say this uncertainty makes it impossible to judge what the underlying level of demand for the OPEC crudes will be in coming months. So the OPEC ceiling of 18 million b/d is a "best guess" with the Saudis on hand to try to take up the slack if OPEC has got its sums wrong.

The industry calculates that the Saudis could cut output by a further one million b/d before joining

the following table shows how the world oil glut is hurting. It lists (1) OPEC members output at the height of the market in 1979 according to industry sources. (2) early 1982 output according to industry sources. (3) the quotas now assigned, from reliable delegation sources in Vienna. Figures for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait included output from the neutral zone shared between them. The neutral zone quota under the Vienna accord is set at 300,000 barrels daily.

Figures are in million barrels a day.

Country	1979	Early 1982	Quotas
Saudi Arabia	9.7	8.6	7.65
Iran	3.5	1.0	1.2
Iraq	3.4	1.0	1.2
Kuwait	2.2	0.85	0.8
U.A.E.	1.8	1.25	1.0
Qatar	0.5	0.35	0.3
Algeria	1.2	0.65	0.65
Libya	2.1	0.7	0.75
Nigeria	2.3	1.5	1.3
Venezuela	2.2	1.72	1.5
Indonesia	1.6	1.64	1.3
Gabon	0.2	0.16	0.15
Ecuador	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	30.9	19.55	18.00

kingdom's quota was fixed at 7.5 million b/d.

The Saudis are ready to turn the tapes down further if necessary, Sheikh Yamani said, pledging at his news conference to defend the \$34 benchmark.

He said there was a concerted Western bid to drive down the price of oil and wreck OPEC. He blamed the fact that OPEC sales had dwindled to levels not seen since the 1960s in part on recession but also upon the unloading onto the market of major oil companies' surplus stocks.

That had been accompanied by

a majority of cash-pinned OPEC exporters in running a budget deficit.

OPEC's record on self-discipline is scarcely a good one, oil company OPEC-watchers say.

Back in 1979, when the Shah of Iran fell from power and Iranian oil production slumped, jittery oil companies went on a panic buying spree that created the huge stocks now being run down. In those heady days OPEC sales boomed, soaring above 30 million b/d.

In that tight market, OPEC militants like Iran, Algeria and Libya raced away from the moderated

Nigeria, with a huge population and desperate for development funds, is OPEC's weakest link. With non-OPEC Britain whose North Sea crudes are of similar quality, it tagged along with the "hawks" in 1979-80.

This year, Britain slashed prices by \$5.50. Buyers told Nigeria to match it or they would walk away, and the threat that Nigeria would undermine the benchmark provoked the OPEC crisis talks here — Sheikh Yamani said he saw the British move as being in the line with the Western strategy to drive down OPEC prices.

Under the Vienna deal Nigeria only cuts its price by around one dollar a barrel and gets a quota of 1.3 million b/d. Sources in other delegations said Nigeria hoped it could now cope but Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states were standing by with financial aid if needed to help it keep ranks.

Countries such as Venezuela, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia, whose sales have held up rather better than those of the "hawks", made sacrifices to achieve the quota accord. Venezuelan Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti did not expect to have to go as low as his quota of 1.5 million barrels daily, 25 per cent down on an original Venezuelan target for the year, delegates said.

They said Venezuela, which took a lead in founding OPEC some two decades ago, felt obliged to act in the interest of OPEC unity and Dr. Calderon called the final deal a historic act.

A four-member ministerial committee headed by the OPEC president, Dr. Oteiba, was set up to monitor adherence to the output quotas. The other members are Algeria, Indonesia and Venezuela.

Venezuela's Dr. Calderon said it would try to monitor the spot market and prevent members making new deals to refine their crude abroad and sell the products free of OPEC pricing restraints. Industry sources say Libya has been doing this.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities and government bonds moved higher Tuesday, supported by the firm trend of New York markets overnight, dealers said. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 6.9 at 565.0.

Oils were active following the rise in retail petrol prices announced by Shell and B.P. Both B.P. and Shell rose 8p while Ultramar ended 22p higher at 375. Lasmo was up 25p at 289 after 294 following 1981 results.

Gold shares added as much as \$2½, as in Amgold and Randfont, reflecting the rally in the bullion price. North American issues were also firm.

Government bonds showed closing gains of up to ½ point in longer dated conventional issues but index-linked stocks continued to ease on small turnover, dealers said.

Willis Faber added 13p to 433 following results while Eagle Star ended 2p higher at 390 after 392 ahead of final results due Wednesday. BICC held steady at 343, also ahead of figures Wednesday, while STC ended 5p down at 523. ITT Tuesday said it had reduced its stake in the company to 75 per cent from 85 per cent.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.8028/38	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2193/96	Canadian dollars
	2.3930/40	West German marks
	2.6440/23	Dutch guilders
	1.9013/23	Swiss francs
	45.15/18	Belgian francs
	6.2700/30	French francs
	1315.00/1316.00	Italian lire
	245.30/40	Japanese yen
	5.8725/45	Swedish crowns
	6.0500/20	Norwegian crowns
	8.1400/30	Danish crowns
Once ounce of gold	327.25/327.75	U.S. dollars

military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240. Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qala (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:12

Sunrise 5:35

Dhuhr 11:43

'Asr 3:12

Maghreb 5:51

Isha 7:14

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS: Amman: Mohammad Sa'id Lubbadeb 56560

Sa'id Mohammad Sa'd (Al Wahadah)

ARRIVALS: Karachi (PIA) Cairo (EA) Agaba Cairo (EA) Dhabra Kuwait (KAC) Kuwait (AF) Cairo (EA) Kuwait (Swiss) Kuwait (KAC) Kuwait (AF) Dhabra Ieddah Cairo Bahrain, Doha Baghdad Ras al-Khaimah Bagdad Beirut Abu Dhabi Larnaca (CY) Jeddah (SV) Kuwait (Taram) Kuwait (KAC) Paris (AF) Bangkok Cairn Cairo (EA) Copenhagen, Athens Zurich (SR) Rome (Alitalia) Beirut (MEA) Frankfurt (LH) Bagdad Cairo Bagdad

PHARMACIES: Amman: Nairok 33672

Al Salam 36730

Al Manar S1408

Al Dakhiyah Circle 68888

AI Wahdat (—)

Zarqa: Al Hikmah (—)

Irbid: Fouad 75360

TAXIS: Asfour 23230

Khalid 23715

AJ Shahid 21091

Rania 25095

Sultan S1998

DEPARTURES: Cairo Frankfurt (LH) Beirut Agaba Cairo Bagdad

3:00 Cairo 41520

6:15 Frankfurt (LH) 36147-8

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SPORTS

Northern Ireland to take steps to heal their bruised morale

PARIS (R) — Northern Ireland will be eager to restore their bruised morale when they meet France in a World Cup warm-up soccer international here Wednesday.

The Northern Irish engaged in prolonged celebrations after they clinched a place in the line up for Spain in November but were bro-

ught painfully down to earth when they were thrashed 4-0 by England in the British Championship last month.

France, even without the inspirational Michel Platini in midfield, could add in the Irish hangover in the Parc des Princes stadium.

The French were originally

booked to play England but when the two sides were drawn in the Group Four with Kuwait and Czechoslovakia the Northern Irish were invited instead.

Platini, one of the world's outstanding players, pulled out of the match after straining a thigh muscle in a league game last week.

But French manager Michel Hidalgo has still managed to come up with a side positively bristling with talent. There may be no Platini but the Irish still have in contention the mercurial Didier Six and the exciting Brune Bellone.

Northern Ireland, who will be the outsiders of Group Five which contains Spain, Yugoslavia and Honduras, will field an attacking line-up which includes two wingers, a rarity in the modern game.

Hungarian manager Kalman Messoly has also delayed naming his side as Ferenc Csongrady faces a late fitness test.

Csongrady, absent from the international scene for two years, returned to the side in a friendly against Belgian club side Antwerp last week and had a hand in five of Hungary's eight goals.

Another question mark lies over forward Laszlo Kiss who has pulled thigh muscle and who may be replaced by Gabor Poloska, while Imre Garaba, who is suspended, will be replaced by Tibor Rab in the midfield.

As usual, the Austrians, drawn

Austria, Hungary prepare for Spain

BUDAPEST (R) — Austria and Hungary meet for the 125th time here Wednesday in what could be one of their most important soccer matches since they first clashed in 1902.

Both sides are using the game as part of their World Cup preparations and the victors will gain a tremendous psychological boost for Spain.

Traditionally, the home side has had the edge but Austrian manager Georg Schmidt will be hoping to reverse that trend in his first match in charge.

Schmidt gained an early insight into the problems facing a national team manager when Italian club Internazionale requested that star midfielder Herbert Prohaska play only half the game because of his recent fitness problems.

As usual, the Austrians, drawn

against West Germany, Chile and Algeria in Group Two in Spain, will be relying on the erratic but deadly Hans Krankl for goals, although he seldom carries the same threat without Prohaska.

Hungarian manager Kalman Messoly has also delayed naming his side as Ferenc Csongrady faces a late fitness test.

Manager Billy Bingham will be hoping Terry Cochran and Noel Brotherton, who steps out of the English second division, can supply burly striker Gerry Armstrong with the type of high crosses on which he thrives.

Northern Ireland's best known player, veteran goalkeeper Pat Jennings, will miss the match through injury, allowing Jim Platt to make his first appearance since 1980.



Marvin Hagler... undisputed middleweight champion

Hagler to defend title

NEW YORK (A.P.) — Marvin Hagler will defend the undisputed middleweight championship against fellow American Thomas Hearns, the former World Boxing Association welterweight champion on May 24 in Nevada, it was announced at a news conference Tuesday.

The fight will be promoted by Bob Arum Enterprises Inc. and Selectiv of Los Angeles. Lionel Schenck, president of Selectiv, said that the exact location of the bout has not been decided.

2nd unofficial test ends in draw

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (A.P.) — Graham Gooch's English cricket side drew the second unofficial international against South Africa's Springboks Monday.

At the end, the English side was

223 and 249 for three wickets declared, while the Springboks were

235 and 38 for no wicket.

Belgium begins run up to World Cup

BRUSSELS (R) — Ebulient Belgium, runners up to West Germany in the 1980 European Soccer Championship, begin their run up to the World Cup when they meet Romania here Wednesday.

The Belgians have arranged four warm-up matches before they face holders Argentina, Hungary and El Salvador in Group Three in Spain and mid-field star Franky Vercauteren said Tuesday: "The Mundial begins on Wednesday for the 'Red Devils'."

Romania, in the World Cup wilderness since 1979, have now overcome the demoralisation of losing out to England and Hungary in this year's qualifying matches and are regrouping under new manager, 36-year-old Mircea Lucescu.

But they will be hard pressed to beat a side which shows every sign of being in the ascendant. Apart from hosts Spain and holders Argentina were the first side to

perfect our techniques at the same time as matching up victories to swell our heads before leaving for Spain," explained Vercauteren.

However, the Belgians are suffering a few teething troubles in putting the final World Cup side together.

Jan Ceulemans, the brilliant striker from Bruges, is out for the moment with a groin injury which is beginning to cast serious doubt on whether we will be able to go to Spain.

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WORLD

Salvador guerrillas claim preparing for 'final victory'

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Leftist guerrillas announced plans Tuesday to march on El Salvador's cities in a bid to overthrow the ruling American-backed junta.

The guerrillas' Radio Venceremos said in its latest broadcast: "Our forces have defeated the enemy in the countryside and now prepare for final victory by marching on the cities."

The guerrillas, battling security forces backed by ultra-rightist groups over the past two years in a civil war, have vowed to wreck next Sunday's constituent assembly elections which are seen by Washington as a first step in bringing peace to the country.

In a wave of bombing attacks, guerrillas on Monday damaged or destroyed more than 20 buses in various parts of the capital in an attempt to cripple the transport system on the eve of the polls.

Radio Venceremos called on countries supporting the guerrillas to break off diplomatic and commercial relations with the Salvadorean government.

It said the forthcoming elections were not the solution to the country's problems.

Radio Venceremos charged Monday that the United States planned to invade El Salvador and called on friendly members of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to stop "this new criminal intent."

There were unconfirmed reports that public transport in various parts of the country has been suspended or severely curtailed because of guerrilla threats to kill drivers.

Up to now, the guerrilla tactics have been to order people out of houses before destroying the vehicles.

In San Salvador itself, residents said there was a marked reduction in the number of buses plying their normal routes.

Intelligence sources said they had indications guerrillas planned to start their long-awaited offensive to wreck the polls on Wednesday, the second anniversary of the murder of San Salvador Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

The archbishop, a staunch defender of the poor, was shot to death by suspected rightists while celebrating mass.

The Salvadorean elections are seen by the U.S. as a first step in ending the civil war which has claimed more than 30,000 lives in just over two years.

The guerrilla radio said that as part of the alleged U.S. plan to invade El Salvador, Argentine

troops have been sent secretly to Honduras.

Defence Minister Guillermo Garcia denounced the guerrilla attempts to sabotage the elections, saying: "The people will vote even under a hail of bullets."

He accused Cuba, Nicaragua and the Soviet Union of aiding the guerrillas because these countries "detest the idea of elections for their own people and are therefore determined to stop us."

Gen. Garcia dismissed allegations that four Dutch newsmen killed last week in Chalatenango were victims of a military ambush or right-wing extremists.

The official armed forces version is that the newsmen were with guerrillas and were killed in a clash between the rebels and security forces.

Hague prepares report on killings

THE HAGUE (R) — The Dutch government said Tuesday it was compiling a report on the deaths of four members of a Dutch television news crew in El Salvador last week but could not say when its investigations would be completed.

A foreign ministry spokesman said an on-the-spot investigation being carried out by the Dutch ambassador to Mexico, Johannes Speyert van Woerden, would last about one week.

The government sent the ambassador to El Salvador following demands from Dutch press organisations for an investigation.

The spokesman said the ambassador's findings would form only a part of the final report. The foreign ministry was busy taking

statements from Dutch journalists who had returned from El Salvador since the killings last Wednesday.

The ministry was also in touch with the U.S. government.

"The Netherlands is not fully convinced by the El Salvador government's version of the deaths of the journalists," the spokesman added.

The El Salvador armed forces said in a statement the newsmen were with a group of guerrillas in Northern Chalatenango Province and were killed in an exchange of fire with troops.

The spokesman said it was not known when the bodies of the four — Koos Koster, Hans Ter Laag, Jan Kyuper and Jan Willemsen — would be flown home.

U.S. nuclear sub collides with Turkish freighter

NAIROBI (R) — Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has called for an emergency summit of African leaders to discuss the disputed admission of Polisario guerrillas to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Mr. Boucetta told reporters Tuesday he gave a message to this effect from Morocco's King Hassan II to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, current OAU chairman, and predicted that the Kenyan leader would make a decision in a few days.

President Moi is also head of a seven-nation OAU committee charged with finding a solution to the dispute over the Western Sahara, where Polisario guerrillas have been fighting for six years against Moroccan rule.

The admission of the Polisario's self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) to the 50-nation OAU at a ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa last month provoked a Moroccan-led walkout by 19 countries.

OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo admitted the SADR because 26 OAU member-states had granted it diplomatic recognition.

Opponents of the move contend that the SADR is not a sovereign state and cannot qualify for membership.

"Morocco will do everything to avoid the disintegration of the splitting-up of the OAU. But at the same time it will not accept this illegal position and will energetically condemn the secretary-general's action," Mr. Boucetta said.

He said Morocco wanted the extraordinary summit to be held before the next scheduled meeting of OAU heads of state in Tripoli, Libya, in late July and early Aug-

ust.

Mr. Boucetta said the meeting was backed by Sudan, which he visited at the weekend. Guinea and Sierra Leone. All three are members of the OAU Western Sahara committee.

There was a growing feeling among African states that the SADR's admission was wrong.

"People are beginning to see things clearly now," he declared.

Several more countries had added their support to the 19

which walked out of the Addis meeting, he said.

These included Nigeria and Egypt, two influential members of the 19-year-old organisation. Both condemned the admission of the SADR but participated in the meeting.

Sierra Leone, another member of the OAU Sahara committee, and Togo, a supporter of the Polisario, "do not agree with the secretary-general's action," Mr. Boucetta said.

Morocco calls for emergency OAU summit on disputed Polisario entry

NEW DELHI (A.P.) — A government spokesman denied Tuesday a report from Johannesburg that the crew of the Air-India jetliner hijacked last November from the Seychelles to South Africa would be allowed to tell their stories in the Seychelles.

"The position as of now is that, we will now allow these fellows to testify," external affairs ministry spokesman Mani Shankar Iyer said when asked about a dispatch by the German news agency DPA.

Indian authorities said earlier this month that the crew would not be allowed to participate in the current trial of the hijackers in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Air-India is owned by the Indian government, which has no diplomatic relations with South Africa because of that country's official policy of racial segregation.

The DPA reported that an African official as saying an agreement had been reached with the Seychelles' director of civil aviation for the crew to testify their instead.

The ill-fated Boeing 707 was en-

route from Zimbabwe to Bombay with 65 passengers when it landed in the Seychelles and was seized by more than 40 armed men, purportedly mercenaries who had muffed a bid to overthrow the government of the island nation. The hijackers were arrested and their hostages freed later at Durban.

Athens accepts resignation of navy chief

ATHENS (R) — The Greek government has accepted the resignation of navy chief Vice-Admiral Odysseus Kapetos, who disagreed last week with the political leadership over control of naval appointments.

Adm. Kapetos submitted his resignation last Friday but the government made no comment on the reasons. Naval sources said he submitted his resignation after the government insisted on control over all movements and positions of officers. The 52-year-old vice-admiral was appointed by the Socialist government of Andreas Papandreou two months ago when his predecessor, Vice-Admiral Theodoros Deyannis, was promoted to full admiral and appointed chief of the national defence staff.

According to the naval sources, the government is planning to appoint Rear-Admiral Nicos Pappas, now commander of naval training, to replace Adm. Kapetos.

In June 1973, Adm. Pappas, captain of the destroyer *Velos* taking part in NATO manoeuvres in the Mediterranean, led a mutiny against Greece's military regime and withdrew from the exercises.

The ship sailed to Naples where most of its officers and crew asked for political asylum. Adm. Pappas was reinstated after the restoration of democracy in Greece in 1974.

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's regime Tuesday announced the death of seven urban guerrillas and government assassins shot and killed one Khomeini supporter in Iran's relentless confrontation. Tehran Radio said a prominent Kurdish clergyman "faithful to Islam" was killed by autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels in northwestern Iran. It said killing Karim Shahraki was shot dead by counter-revolutionaries.

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They are the enemies of Islam and Pakistan, and for their personal ends, want to disturb the law and order situation in the country to please their masters," he said, but did not elaborate.

Gen. Zia said, within its resources and keeping in view its defence needs, Pakistan has never, and

colleagues felt moved to respond. Apparently, the only interest was among reporters, who accosted the Marquess outside the chamber to ask, incredulously, just when he'd tried the drug.

"I always used to smoke cannabis at parties, when I was offered it by friends," was the response.

"It has never done me any harm," he declared.

The Marquess, a 34-year-old insurance broker, said the drug, known here by its scientific name, cannabis, "is perfectly innocuous, and drinking is far worse. An enlightened government would encourage cannabis, rather than prohibit it."

Both from experience and what I have read, cannabis may induce one to be idle, silly and sexy, but very rarely nasty."

It is not every day that a peer of the realm admits to pot-smoking, much less in parliament, but so far as can be determined from the official record, none of the Marquess'

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Zia stresses need to improve Pakistan's defences

ISLAMABAD (A.P.) — President Gen. Zia Ul Haq Tuesday stressed the need to bolster Pakistan's defence capability to protect its independence, national honour and values.

Addressing the National Day armed forces parade, Gen. Zia said, "The means that Pakistan has at its disposal, and whatever it is trying to acquire for the defence forces, are purely for the defence of the nation — and not for aggression against anyone."

"In accordance with its principles, Pakistan has never, and

will never commit aggression, against anyone, nor will it allow itself to become a victim of an aggression by others," he added.

He said, "While weakness invites aggression, it is the national strength that discourages it."

"Pakistan wants friendly and peaceful relations with all countries, particularly its neighbours, but will not leave its national security to the mercy of others," he added.

Gen. Zia said, within its resources and keeping in view its defence needs, Pakistan has never, and

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Prosecutor asks upto 30 years for Dozier kidnappers

VERONA, Italy (A.P.) — State Prosecutor Guido Papalia on Monday asked for sentences ranging from two years and eight months to 30 years for the suspected Red Brigades terrorists accused of kidnapping U.S. Army Brig.-Gen. James L. Dozier.

Mr. Papalia asked for the lightest sentence for Ruggio Volinia, who led police to the hideout in Padua where the leftist terrorists were holding Gen. Dozier. Acting on the information from Volinia, police raided the "peo-

ple's prison" Jan. 28, freed Gen. Dozier and arrested five terrorists.

Mr. Volinia's comrades, held in a metal-barred cage for defendants in a medieval courtroom, hugged him and slapped him on the back when Mr. Papalia read the request for sentencing. Under Italian law, he would be eligible for parole in 16 months.

Mr. Papalia asked for 12 to 14 years for the defendants who have turned state's evidence: Antonio Savasta, 27, Emilia Libera, 27, Giovanni Ciucci, 32, Emanuela

Frascella, 22, Armando Lanza, 32, and Roberto Zanca, 27. Mr. Papalia said the information they gave police resulted in the arrest of more than 200 suspected leftist terrorists.

Mr. Papalia asked for sentences of 28-30 years — the maximum under Italian law was for the eight suspects who are still at large and the two who have refused to cooperate with police: Cesare di Lenardo and Alberto Bivio.

Italian law provides for parole after half a sentence is served. Mr.

Papalia also asked for fines ranging from one million to three million lire for the defendants (800 to 2,400).

The requests for relatively light sentences are a result of a law written to encourage terrorists to turn state's evidence. Under the law, terrorists who give information that results in the arrest of other suspects may have their sentences reduced by half. The maximum sentence for terrorists who give information that results in the rescue of a kidnap victim — as Mr. Volinia did — is two to eight years.

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